



PRESS RELEASE

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HEAD OF CIVIL HOMELAND DEFENSE GROUP SENTENCED

TUCSON, Ariz. –The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on April 30, 2004, Christopher A. Simcox, DOB 11/29/60, of Tombstone was sentenced to 24 months probation during which he is prohibited from owning, maintaining or using a firearm, and a \$1,000 fine, by United States Magistrate Judge Nancy F. Fiora, in Tucson.

On January 27, 2003, Christopher A. Simcox entered the Coronado National Memorial in the District of Ariz. He carried a loaded .45 caliber Firestorm pistol concealed in the waistband of his pants. When U.S. Federal Park Ranger Deborah Girard asked Simcox whether he carried or possessed a weapon he said that he carried no weapons.

Simcox was found guilty at a bench trial on January 14, 2004 of Count 1, knowingly carrying a weapon on National Park Service Property, and Count 2, knowingly giving false information to a federal Park Ranger. The United States had requested a sentence of five years probation and a \$1,000 fine with special conditions to include that the defendant be prohibited from entering National Park Service or other federal land which borders the United States and Mexico for the purpose of conducting surveillance, reconnaissance, investigations or any other

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operations which further the mission of the Civil Homeland Defense, American Border Patrol, or other border-watch groups; and that the defendant be prohibited from participating in any activity of the Civil Homeland Defense, or other border-watch groups.

Simcox was sentenced to 24 months probation for each count which will be served concurrently. A special condition of Simcox' probation is that he is prohibited from owning, maintaining or using a firearm.

The investigation in this case was conducted by National Park Service Ranger Deborah Girard.

The prosecution was handled by Julia A. Maldonado Soto, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Ariz, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-1709-TUC-RCC (NFF)
RELEASE NUMBER: 2004-82

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